

**ABCR Legislative Update
April 14, 2010**

**CONGRATULATIONS
SB 564 ABCR'S Sunset Legislation
Has now PASSED!!!**

The Alabama Board of Court Reporting has now been continued for two years with the passage of the above bill. Thank you so much for your calls and work in support of passing this much needed legislation. ABCR would like to specifically thank the leadership of ACRA. ABCR and ACRA worked in lockstep unison in order to pass this bill, and together we found great strength. This will be an excellent foundation to continue to build on in the future.

The Sponsors of the Bill: Senator Dixon (R) (District 25 – Elmore and Montgomery) and Representative McClendon (R) (District 50 – Shelby and St. Clair) worked diligently throughout this experience and we are indeed grateful. Many legislators were helpful during this process, but we want to especially thank Representative Blaine Galliher (R) (District 30 – Etowah and St. Clair), who ensured that the Bill be placed on the calendar by the Rules Committee, and Sen. Marc Keahey (D) (22nd District – Baldwin, Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh, Escambia, Mobile, Monroe, and Washington), who was able to bring all interested parties to an agreement. Also, we owe many thanks to the Boards and Commissions Committee Members and Rules Committee Members of the House.

Again, thank you and congratulations!

“What This Bill Does”

SB 564 – Sunset Bill for The Alabama Board of Court Reporting Sponsor: Senator Dixon

SB 564 is the Sunset Bill for the Alabama Board of Court Reporting. This Bill would continue the Board for two years with changes. The following amendments have been added to this Bill:

1. Requirements for Board Membership - This bill would lower the standard for Board Membership by eliminating the requirement to pass the national licensure examination for court reporter members of the Board.
2. Update Language - Replace the language, “Alabama Judicial Conference” with “Administrative Office of Courts” since the Alabama Judicial Conference no longer exists.
3. Continuing Education - Would allow for continuing education courses to be provided by the Alabama State Bar.
4. Board Liability - Would provide for the Board to sue as the result of disciplinary action taken against any licensee or any person who violates the statute. This amendment was provided by the ABCR in order to correct a finding of the Examiners of Public Accounts.
5. Temporary Licensure - Provide for an 18 month Temporary Licensure to practice court reporting to individuals who have graduated from a court reporting school. Further the Board would not be held liable for loss of income to the temporary licensee or court reporting firm should the individual not pass the examination after the temporary license has expired.